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C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 000913

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/28/2015

TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREF](#) [PREL](#) [BA](#) [ICRC](#)

SUBJECT: BAHRAIN: URGENT DEMARCHE ON MAGEN DAVID ADOM

REF: A. STATE 118394

[B](#). MANAMA 826

[C](#). STATE 104272

Classified by Pol/Econ Chief Steve Bondy for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) Pol/Econ chief June 27 delivered Ref A demarche concerning the Magen David Adom (MDA) symbol to MFA Director for International Organization Affairs Ghassan Shaikho. Shaikho said he was aware of our interest in a Swiss diplomatic conference on MDA (Refs B, C). He stated that Bahrain believes now is not the right time to hold a conference on this subject. The Bahraini mission in Geneva is conducting quiet consultations on the issue, but otherwise the GOB will maintain a low profile. He suggested that positive movement on peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians could improve the atmosphere for a conference on the MDA symbol.

MONROE